

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

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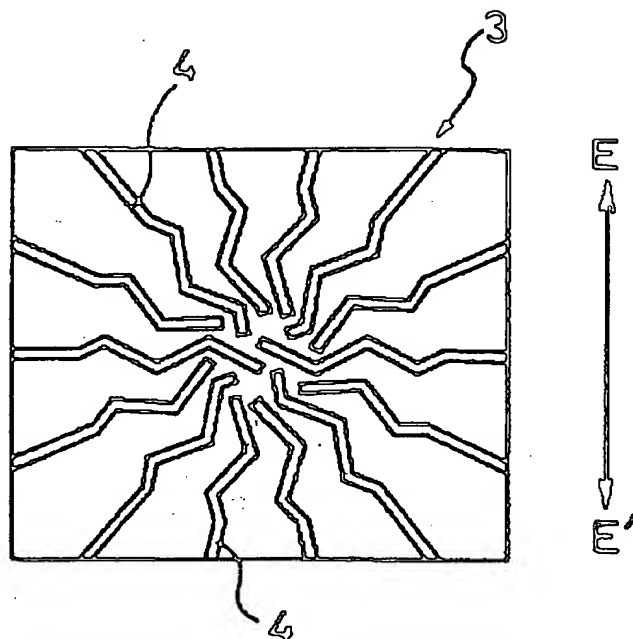
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APPLICANT : YOKOHAMA RUBBER CO LTD:THE;

INVENTOR : HAMAMOTO KIMIYA;

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TITLE : PNEUMATIC TIRE



**ABSTRACT :** PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To improve both ice performance and snow performance by providing a tread pattern made of blocks with sipes on the surface, arranging sipes densely near the block center section, and arranging sipes coarsely near the block edge section.

**SOLUTION:** Sipes 4 are arranged densely near the block center section, and sipes 4 are arranged coarsely near the block edge section. Sipes 4 may be radially arranged from the block center section to the block edge section in this arrangement. When sipes 4 are radially arranged and are opened at the block edge section, the water sucked by the sipes 4 is discharged to main grooves and auxiliary grooves from the block edge section, and the draining effect can be further increased. Both snow performance (snow braking property) and ice performance (ice braking property) can be improved.

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